

DESCRIPTION OF A NEW CYSTIGNATHOID FROG
FROM NEW SOUTH WALES.

BY J. J. FLETCHER.

CRINIA HASWELLI, n.sp.

Vomerine teeth in two distinct slightly oblique groups behind the choanæ. Snout rounded, longer than (in ♂) or about as long as (in ♀) the orbital diameter; nostril slightly nearer the eye than the tip of the snout; interorbital space broader than (in ♂) or about as broad as (in ♀) the upper eyelid; tympanum quite hidden. First finger about as long as second; toes slightly fringed; subarticular tubercles well developed; two small metatarsal tubercles, the outer one very small, or wanting or not perceptible (in ♂); no tarsal fold. The hind limb being carried forwards along the body, the tibio-tarsal articulation reaches to between the eye and the shoulder. Upper surfaces smooth, but with some small indistinct scattered warts especially posteriorly; belly—but not the throat and chest—and the lower and hinder surfaces of the thighs near the symphysis granular. In life a rich chestnut-brown or a silvery-grey or drab above, with an incomplete broad darker band down the middle of the back commencing between the eyes very much as in *Hyla ewingii*, changing in spirit to a dull chocolate-brown or a light ashy-grey; minutely specked with black; a light vertebral line; a black band on each side of the head commencing at the nostril, at first narrow and sometimes imperfect, passing through the eye and extending back as far as above the shoulder, sometimes interrupted, sometimes light-edged superiorly: a carmine or orange-red spot on the loin on each side close to the groin: a larger one on the hinder side of each thigh, and on the inner surface of each calf, the bright colour not so 'fast' as in some species of the genus but

soon more or less discharged in spirit: throat dark brown or blackish, sometimes with a few light specks; belly and thighs with light spots on a dark brown or blackish ground. Male with a subgular vocal sac.

Five specimens: two (♀) 30 mm. from snout to vent; one [♀ juv. (?)] 20 mm.; two (♂) 24-26 mm.

Hab.—Near the head of Jervis Bay.

In his Synopsis of the species of *Crinia* (B. M. Catalogue, p. 264) Mr. Boulenger makes two groups: those with and those without the lower surfaces granulate. The new species belongs to the first of these which includes *C. georgiana*, Bibr., and *C. signifera*, Gir., but it has relatively less extent of granulate surface than either of them. From the former *C. haswelli* is at once distinguishable by the dark throat and chest, and the maculate belly; from the latter by the different coloration, and the presence of vomerine teeth.

In September last at the invitation of Professor Haswell I had the pleasure of joining a small dredging and collecting party organised by him to visit Jervis Bay. On that occasion two specimens of the new *Crinia* were obtained. A month later in company with Mr. Hill I made a second brief visit, but a good deal of searching resulted in only three additional specimens.

I avail myself of this opportunity of pointing out that the first sentence of my description of *C. froggatti* [P.L.S.N.S.W. (2), vi. (1891), p. 275] should be amended so as to read—Vomerine teeth in two small groups behind the choanæ, rarely absent. On a re-examination of eleven specimens still in my possession, I find that nine have vomerine teeth; but that in two the vomerine teeth are absent or imperceptible.